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CLANDESTINE SERVICES HISTORICAL PROGRAM

(January 1965 to June 1967)

JUNE 1967 - STATUS REPORT

Of the DDP Representative, Historical Staff, O/DCI

ASSUMPTION

The assumption in 1964 was that a valid requirement to record Clandestine Services History existed. Early examination into the condition of our document holdings and of the experience gaps produced by the loss of manpower over the years reinforced the validity of this assumption with a well founded sense of urgency. The review of existing records reflected a wide variety of recording and filing procedures, large gaps in written information, non-existent or poor retrieval systems for historical material, categorical destruction procedures with almost non-existent plans for identification of historically valuable items. An examination of the possible use of potential manpower revealed no current plans for debriefing knowledgeable officers, a serious lack of personal post-action reporting, and no arrangement for capturing the expertise of officers prior to retirement or resignation.

PURPOSE

The purpose as summarized by the Chief, Historical Staff was, "to consolidate a record of problems and solutions, failures and accomplishments which will put the past into historical perspective as background for the current direction of central intelligence and provide a reservoir from which particular requirements for historical material can be satisfied." Thus, a Clandestine Services Historical Program was required which would bring the full potential of the CS components to focus in developing a balanced and coordinated record of CS history. In consequence, on 30 November 1964, the DDP took three actions. He approved and appointed a Clandestine Services Historical Board (CS/HB), designated the DDP Representative, Historical Staff, O/DCI to manage the Program as Executive Secretary, CS/HB, and approved the assignment of a research group to the Historical Staff, O/DCI.

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SUMMARY

Unique administrative and control procedures have been engineered and projected into the CS Historical Program to aid in its management. The organization of the human experiences, talent and effort from within the Clandestine Services has contributed significantly to the success of the Program. (Attachment Tab L)

Between January 1965 and June 1967, 180 CS officers have participated in the CS Historical Program. Component chiefs in collaboration with CS/HB have detailed 33 officers to write specific papers for periods of from three weeks to a number of months. 117 officers have assisted in the development of component programs and the writing of historical papers on a limited, part-time basis. 22 former officers have been placed under contracts of varied durations during these two and one-half years; no contract has been for more than one year. Eight employees have been loaned to the CS/HB between assignments on full-time, unlimited detail. (Attachment Tab K)

There are now 158 papers included in the Catalog of CS Histories: 46 are completed and have been released to the controlling components; 102 are now in the process of being written; and 10 are projected. An additional 39 papers are not yet included in the Catalog but have been planned and discussed with the writers. Research and writing on these will be launched prior to the end of 1967. (Attachment Tab H-1 and 2)

The participation of increasing numbers of CS personnel in the historical effort and the growing realization of the existence and value of historical papers is stimulating a rise in requests for CS Historical Board support. This developing interest is further reflected in an expanded use of completed papers now held in the components and of historical reference materials including debriefings, drafts, and HS/CSG source documents identified in the multi-purpose index. (Attachment Tab Q)

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The CS Historical Program has been brought into the CS regulatory system for permanence, stability and support, through the publishing of [redacted] plus its implementing "Handbook for the Writing of Clandestine Services History," [redacted] (Third Edition). Approved Project [redacted] provides support to the Program. (Attachment Tabs M, N, P) 25X1

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Attachment: Record of Operations and Procedures of the CS Historical Program - January 1965 to June 1967 (A Guide for the CS/HB and CS Historical Officers)

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OBJECTIVES AND RELATED PROGRESS

1. Establishment by the CS/HB of terms of reference, and other guides for reviewing plans and selecting writers.

Terms of reference and procedures for the CS/HB were established in the spring of 1965. (Attachment Tabs A, B, C)

2. Appointment of component Historical Officers.

A senior officer in each component was appointed as Historical Officer (HO) by the component chief in April 1965; eight have been replaced with HO's whose sole responsibility is to write and manage the component's historical program.
(Attachment Tabs E, F)

3. Development of an outline for the historical program of each CS component.

The 17 component outlines have been submitted and 13 have been approved by the CS/HB; four are being reviewed and one is in process of development. (Attachment Tab G)

4. Organization of a Catalog of CS Histories to provide information concerning papers in process as well as those completed.

The Catalog is established. (Attachment Tab H-1)

5. Preparation of a Handbook for participants in the Program.

The "Handbook for the Writing of Clandestine Services History" is in its Third Edition. (Attachment Tab P)

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6. Establishment of a document research, retrieval, and indexing program, including a multi-purpose index to support the Program.

There is a weekly review of record material marked for destruction and the HS/CSG is on call to assist in the analysis of spot collections. A stamping system for placing materials under an HS/CSG controlled review prior to destruction, and a multi-purpose index are established. (Attachment Tab I)

7. Search of files for historical type documents already in existence.

To date 33 papers of this type have been submitted and included in the Catalog. Undoubtedly many others have not been located and sent forward. As historical research proceeds, it is anticipated that such earlier papers will be surfaced and submitted for historical processing. (Attachment Tab H-2)

8. Identification and codification of historical data basic to the total CS historical effort.

An organizational chronology of the "Antecedents of the Clandestine Services, 1 October 1945 - 1 August 1952" has been prepared by the HS/CSG and selectively distributed. Also, specialized chronologies for various elements have been organized. (Attachment Tab I)

9. Establishment of a system to identify and tap knowledgeable officers.

A coordinated set of systems for obtaining names of resigning and retiring personnel, persons between assignments or unplaced individuals and their essential background information has brought to focus potential participants in the CS Historical Program. (Attachment Tab K)

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10. Arrangement of sound security and sensitivity control procedures for CS historical papers.

The necessary control procedures are in effect. (Attachment Tab L-1)

11. Provision of a plan for maximum utilization of these papers within the bounds of stipulated controls.

The Catalog and multi-purpose index identify papers in support of individual requests but for more continuous use component chiefs and HO's are advised by memorandum when papers are distributed for controlled use. The Chairman of the CS/HB has arranged to notify officers responsible for operations courses, of the titles of completed papers which may be made available for review by the controlling component. (Attachment Tab Q)

12. Organization of a project to provide overall support to the CS/HB and the historical efforts of the CS components.

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Project [redacted] was approved 23 November 1966, to support the CS historical efforts. (Attachment Tab M)

13. Preparation and issuance of an appropriate CSI placing the Program within the framework of the CS regulatory system.

[redacted] has been drafted, received concurrence and will be issued in June 1967. (Attachment Tab N)

14. Establishment of plans and procedures for historical sequels and other historical papers in the future.

Sequels of organizational elements are being planned on a five year interval. Monographs on unique programs, task force operations, etc. will be prepared as required, with follow-up papers where important activities are continuing. AF Division and Central Cover Staff are being used as experimental components in testing plans for documenting the future history of the Clandestine Services. (Attachment Tab O)